



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/068,414	02/06/2002	Shuhuji Fujii	56939 (70904)	3017
21874	7590	11/14/2006	EXAMINER	
EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP			MENBERU, BENIYAM	
P.O. BOX 55874			ART UNIT	
BOSTON, MA 02205			PAPER NUMBER	
			2625	

DATE MAILED: 11/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/068,414

Applicant(s)

FUJII ET AL.

Examiner

Beniyam Menberu

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS; WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-9 and 11-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-9 and 11-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed October 17, 2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, and 13-16 under U.S. Patent No. 6437881 to Baba et al and Claims 4, 10, and 17 under U.S. Patent No. 6437881 to Baba et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6614551 to Peek have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of U.S. Patent 6195428 to Maruyama.
2. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
4. Claim 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6437881 to Baba et al in view of U.S. Patent 6195428 to Maruyama.

Regarding claim 1, Baba et al disclose an image sending method comprising the steps of:

selecting and setting a sending mode for sending image data from plural types of sending modes (column 6, lines 14-19);

setting an image quality for the image data to be sent (column 6, lines 10-15);

selecting and setting a resolution corresponding to the selected image quality from range of applicable resolutions for the selected sending mode (column 6, lines 5-10; column 16, lines 29-33; column 17, lines 7-15); and

sending the image data of the selected resolution by the selected sending mode (column 18, lines 8-11). However Baba et al does not disclose wherein the sending mode for sending image data is selected and set from the plural types of sending modes based on sending destination information which is inputted or selected by a user;

Maruyama discloses wherein the sending mode for sending image data is selected and set from the plural types of sending modes based on sending destination information which is inputted or selected by a user (column 3, lines 36-46; column 5, lines 22-33; column 6, lines 29-44).

Baba et al and Maruyama are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of image transmission.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the inputting method of Maruyama with the image

communication system of Baba et al to implement sending mode selection based on user input.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because Maruyama teaches that the system is convenient and saves time in operating a communication device (column 2, lines 12-15, lines 33-53) and the association of input information of destination with transmission speed (sending mode of Baba et al (column 6, lines 14-19)) can be achieved using the combination.

Regarding claim 2, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teach all the limitations of claim 1. Further Baba et al disclose the image sending method set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the resolution corresponding to the selected image quality is selected and set by referring to a resolution setting table which indicates correspondence between

i) an index which is a single or plural indices of the image quality common to the plural types of sending modes and

ii) a range of applicable resolutions of each sending

mode (Baba et al select a resolution based on transmission attribute information which includes quality and sending speed (mode). The transmission-attribute information

recognizing portion 14 in Baba et al (Figure 17, reference 14) generates a signal for selecting a resolution based on transmission attribute information. The resolution

determining portion 32 (Figure 17, reference 32) determines a resolution from a plurality of resolution. Thus the combination of reference 14 and 32 operates like a lookup table for determining resolution. (column 17, lines 7-30; column 6, lines 9-29)).

Regarding claim 3, Baba et al in view of Maruyama disclose the image sending method set forth in Claim 2, wherein:

the image quality of the image data to be sent is set according to the index which is selected by a user from a plurality of displayed indices (column 6, lines 7-14).

Regarding claim 5, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Further Baba et al disclose the image sending method set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the image data is processed to match the selected resolution (column 17, lines 31-40).

Regarding claim 7, Baba et al in view of Maruyama disclose an image sending device comprising:

sending mode setting means for selecting and setting a sending mode for sending image data from plural types of sending modes (column 6, lines 14-19);

image quality setting means for setting an image quality for the image data to be sent (column 6, lines 10-15); and

resolution setting means for selecting and setting a resolution corresponding to the image quality set by said image quality setting means, from a range of applicable resolutions for the sending mode set by said sending mode setting means (column 6, lines 5-10; column 16, lines 29-33; column 17, lines 7-15). However Baba et al does not disclose input means for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending mode setting means selects and sets the sending mode based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the input means.

Maruyama discloses input means for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending mode setting means selects and sets the sending mode based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the input means (column 3, lines 36-46; column 5, lines 22-33; column 6, lines 29-44).

Baba et al and Maruyama are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of image transmission.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the inputting method of Maruyama with the image communication system of Baba et al to implement sending mode selection based on user input.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because Maruyama teaches that the system is convenient and saves time in operating a communication device (column 2, lines 12-15, lines 33-53) and the association of input information of destination with transmission speed (sending mode of Baba et al (column 6, lines 14-19)) can be achieved using the combination.

Regarding claim 8, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teach all the limitations of claim 7. Further Baba et al disclose the image sending device set forth in Claim 7 wherein :

said resolution setting means refers to a resolution setting table which stores a range of applicable resolutions of each sending mode, with a corresponding index which is a single or plural indices of the image quality common to the plural types sending modes

(Baba et al select a resolution based on transmission attribute information which includes quality and sending speed (mode). The transmission-attribute information recognizing portion 14 in Baba et al (Figure 17, reference 14) generates a signal for selecting a resolution based on transmission attribute information. The resolution determining portion 32 (Figure 17, reference 32) determines a resolution from a plurality of resolution. Thus the combination of reference 14 and 32 operates like a lookup table for determining resolution. (column 17, lines 7-30; column 6, lines 9-29)).

Regarding claim 9, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teach all the limitations of claim 8. Further Baba et al disclose the image sending device set forth in Claim 8, further comprising:
display means for displaying the plural indices (column 6, lines 4-19; Figure 4); and
input means for enabling a user to input one of the plural indices (column 6, lines 3-11),
wherein:
said image quality setting means sets the image quality according to the index which is inputted by the input means (column 6, lines 7-15).

Regarding claim 11, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teaches all the limitations of claim 7. Further Baba et al discloses the image sending device set forth in Claim 7 further comprising:
image data processing means for processing the image data based on the resolution set by said resolution setting means, into a form suitable for the sending mode set by said sending mode setting means (column 6, lines 5-19; column 17, lines 31-40).

Regarding claim 13, Baba et al in view of Maruyama disclose an image sending device comprising:

sending route setting section for selecting and setting a sending route from plural image sending routes (column 6, lines 14-19);

an image quality setting section for setting an image quality of sending image (column 6, lines 10-15);

processing contents setting section for setting processing contents which corresponds to the image sending route set by said sending route setting section

and the image quality set by said image quality setting section (column 6, lines 5-10; column 16, lines 29-33; column 17, lines 7-15);

an image processing section for processing the image to create the sending image based on the processing contents set by said processing contents setting section (column 17, lines 31-40); and

an image sending section for sending the sending image via the image sending route set by said sending route setting section (column 18, lines 8-11). However Baba et al does not disclose sending destination input section for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending route setting section selects and sets the sending route from the plural image sending routes based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the sending destination input section.

Maruyama discloses sending destination input section for enabling a user to input or select sending destination information and wherein said sending route setting

section selects and sets the sending route from the plural image sending routes based on the sending destination information inputted or selected through the sending destination input section (column 3, lines 36-46; column 5, lines 22-33; column 6, lines 29-44).

Baba et al and Maruyama are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of image transmission.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the inputting method of Maruyama with the image communication system of Baba et al to implement sending mode selection based on user input.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because Maruyama teaches that the system is convenient and saves time in operating a communication device (column 2, lines 12-15, lines 33-53) and the association of input information of destination with transmission speed (sending mode of Baba et al (column 6, lines 14-19)) can be achieved using the combination.

Regarding claim 14, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teaches all the limitations of claim 13. Further Baba et al discloses the image sending device set forth in Claim 13, wherein: the image quality set by said image quality setting section is commonly used for the plural image sending routes (column 6, lines 20-29).

Regarding claim 15, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teaches all the limitations of claim 14. Further Baba et al discloses the image sending device set forth in Claim 14, further comprising:

Art Unit: 2625

a storage section for storing a processing contents setting table which stores processing contents corresponding to each of the plural image sending routes and the image quality (Baba et al select a resolution based on transmission attribute information which includes quality and sending speed (mode). The transmission-attribute information recognizing portion 14 in Baba et al (Figure 17, reference 14) generates a signal for selecting a resolution based on transmission attribute information. The resolution determining portion 32 (Figure 17, reference 32) determines a resolution from a plurality of resolution. Thus the combination of reference 14 and 32 operates like a lookup table for determining resolution. (column 17, lines 7-30; column 6, lines 9-29; column 20, lines 55-57).

Regarding claim 16, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teaches all the limitations of claim 15. Further Baba et al disclose the image sending device set forth in Claim 15, further comprising:

a display section for displaying the image quality which exists as plural image qualities (column 6, lines 4-19; Figure 4); and

an input section for enabling a user to input one of the plural image qualities (column 6, lines 3-11),

wherein:

said image quality setting section selects and sets the image quality inputted through the input section (column 6, lines 7-15).

5. Claims 6 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6437881 to Baba et al in view of U.S. Patent 6195428 to Maruyama further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6590673 to Kadowaki.

Regarding claim 6, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teaches all the limitations of claim 1. However Baba et al in view of Maruyama does not disclose the image sending method set forth Claim 1, wherein: the image data is created by reading an image, so as to match selected resolution.

Kadowaki discloses image sending method (column 5, lines 1-11), wherein: the image data is created by reading an image, so as to match selected resolution (column 6, lines 15-33).

Baba et al, Maruyama, and Kadowaki are combinable because they are in the similar problem area of image transmission.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the image data creation of Kadowaki with the image transmission of Baba et al in view of Maruyama to implement image transmission with selected resolution.

The motivation to combine the reference is clear because it would be convenient to implement the resolution conversion within the scanner.

Regarding claim 12, Baba et al in view of Maruyama teach all the limitations of claim 7. Further Kadowaki discloses the image sending device (column 5, lines 1-11) set forth in Claim 7, further comprising:

image reading means for reading an image based on the resolution set by the resolution setting means, so as to create image data (column 6, lines 15-33).

Other Prior Art Cited

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 7061653 to Kohri discloses image processor with transmission capabilities.

U.S. Patent Application Publication Pub. No. US 2004/0145660 A1 to Kusaka discloses image device with transmission capabilities.

U.S. Patent Application Publication Pub. No. US 2005/0195446 A1 to Kasatani discloses communication device with information extraction capabilities.

U.S. Patent Application Publication Pub. No. US 2005/0210031 A1 to Kasatani discloses communication device for documents.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Beniyam Menberu whose telephone number is (571) 272-7465. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM-4:30PM.

Art Unit: 2625

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on (571) 272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600. The group receptionist number for TC 2600 is (571) 272-2600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov/>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner

Beniyam Menberu

BM

11/11/2006

KAWilliams
KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER